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Column opportune on birth control

I wish to commend H. Harrison Jenkins for his timely column on Jan. 18 regarding the need for the media to "give more visibility and respectability" to the importance of using birth control. It does seem rather paradoxical that TV especially gives so much attention to other aspects of sexuality but remains so shy about presenting contraception. Contraception is the most obvious and widely accepted answer to unplanned pregnancies, which upset so many people.

We, and other family planning agencies, I believe, would welcome the media's promotion of contraception, especially as this could result in a great reduction in the number of abortions.

It is a cruel irony that our country is effectively denying family planning services to many of the 30 million people served by the International Planned Parenthood Federation which may very well then lead to more abortions. Readers who agree with our concern are urged to write our U.S. Sens. Hollings and Thurmond and Congressman Floyd Spence urging that the $17 million grant to IPPF be restored.

BARBARA W. MOXON
President of the Board, Planned Parenthood of Central S.C.
Columbia